

38 FABLES in VERSE.

So kind, so gameſome, ſo diverting,  
Their love-tricks need not here inſerting.  
'Twas yet remark'd by ev'ry one,  
If from the table fell a bone,  
They ſnarl and ſnap, and ſcratch and bite,  
And bid civilities good night.

MORAL.

Self-int'reſt is the bone of ſtrife,  
And often ſep'rates friends for life.

REFLECTION.

Here read illuſtrated the plan  
Which captivates and governs man;  
We little likings firſt contract,  
And long together kindly act.  
But if, by jealous thought or joke,  
The league is cancell'd, friendſhip broke,  
The farce concludes in ſcratch and bite,  
And intereſt only ſets us right.



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FABLES in VERSE. 39



A SHEPHERD turned MERCHANT.

A Shepherd, feeding of his flock,  
(Calm the ſea, ſerene the ſky)  
Was tempted to ſell off his flock,  
And on the waves his fortune try.  
A freight of figs he ſoon procur'd,  
And with them went to ſea,  
And having great fatigues endur'd,  
At length waſt caſt away:

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